

The University of Illinois at Chicago

Green Office Challenge

engaging with faculty and staff to create
a more sustainable university

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Important Characteristics:

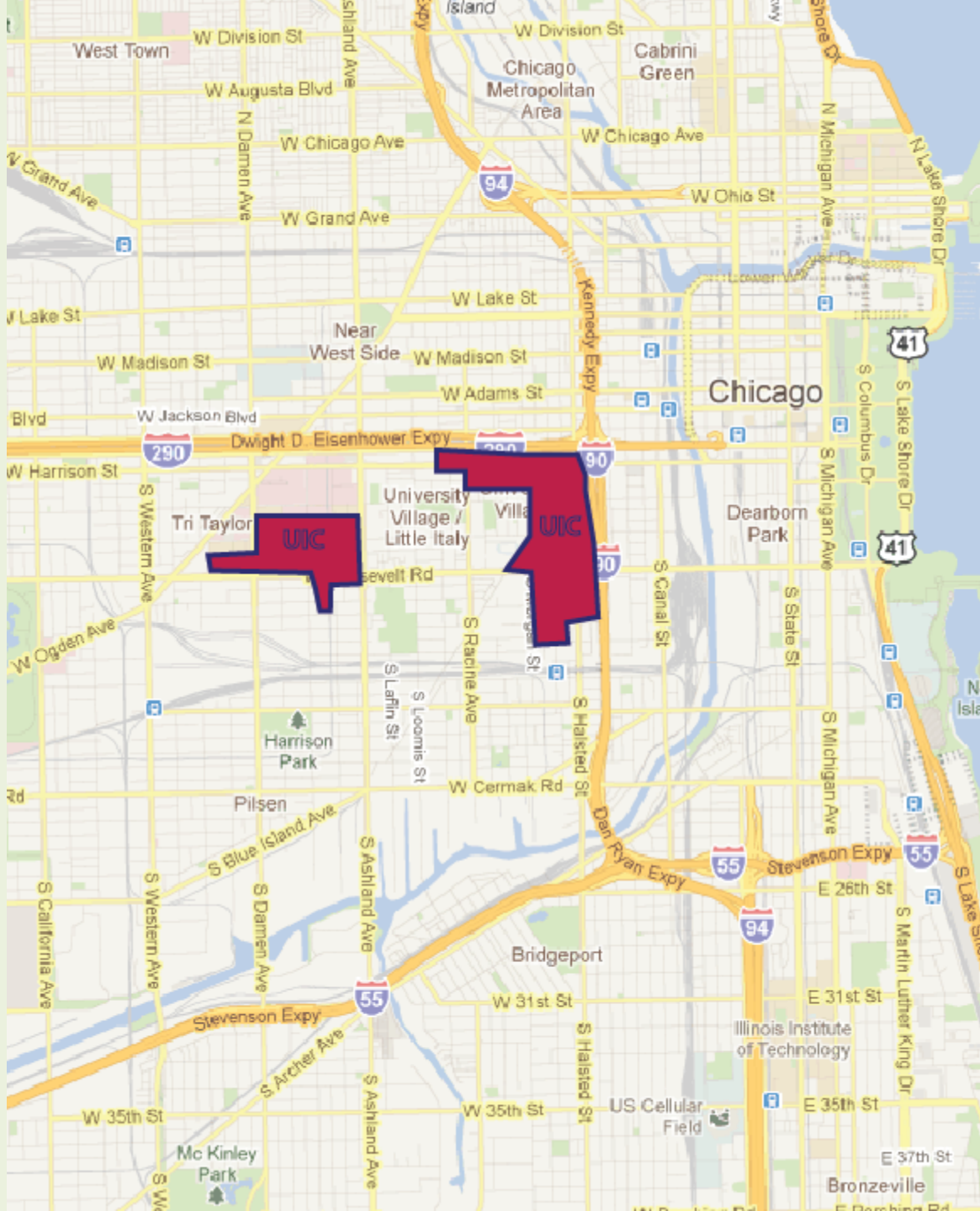
- UIC is an urban institution, and highly transit accessible
- There are over 100 buildings on the 242 acre UIC campus
- 27,000 undergrad, graduate and professional students attend UIC

Faculty: 2,445

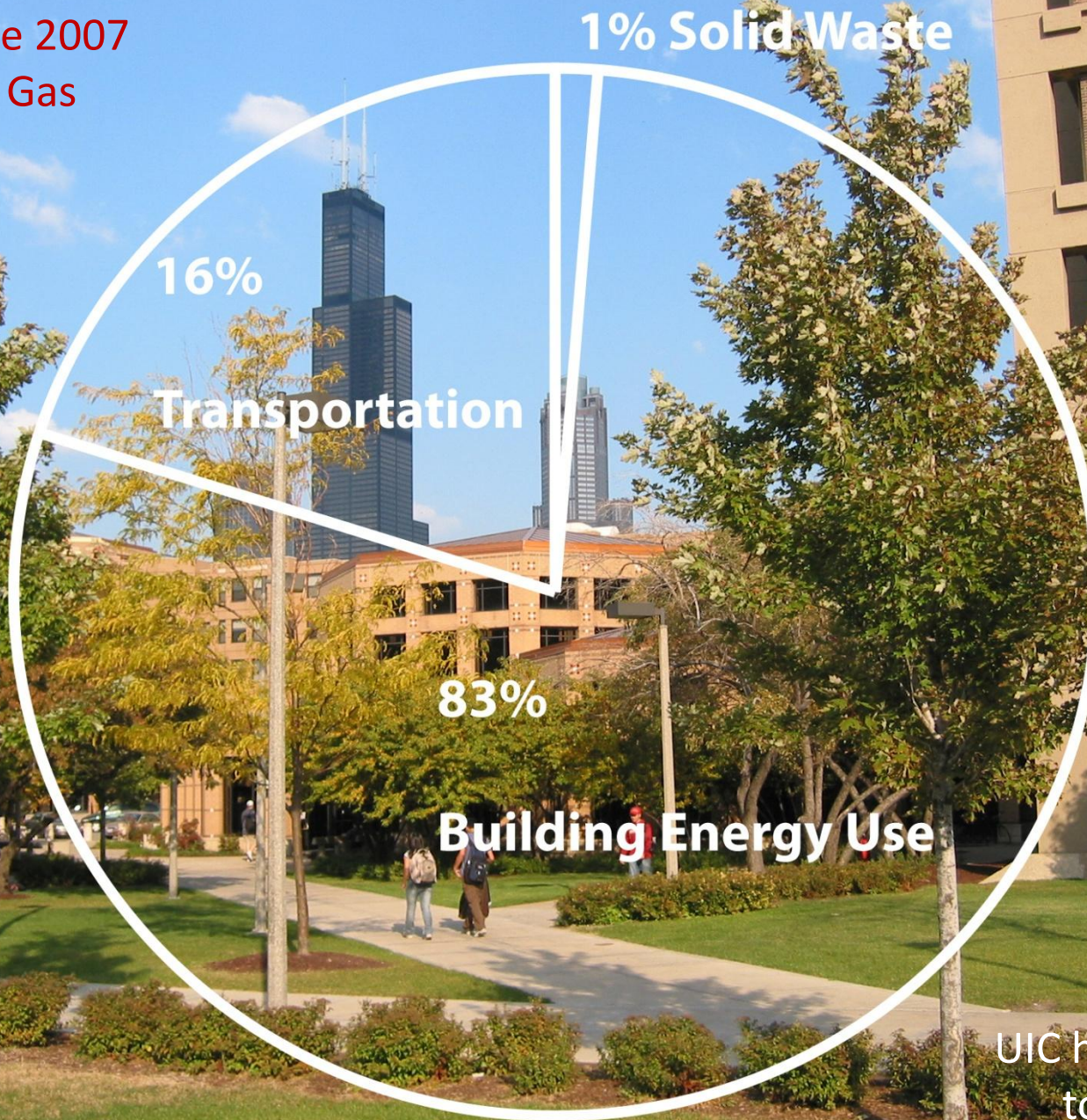
Administrative and Professional Staff: 3,765

Support Staff: 6,979

13,189
total faculty and staff



Results of the 2007
Greenhouse Gas
Inventory.



UIC has Committed
to being carbon
neutral by 2050

The Problem:

While much of UIC's greenhouse gas emissions stem from its building stock which require maintenance or renovation to reduce emissions

there is also a behavioral component to UIC's greenhouse gas emissions.

'Business as usual' operations have got to change as well.

What does the Green Office Challenge seek to achieve?

Short term:

- Increased awareness of sustainability issues on campus
- Foster the idea that individual actions can actually make a difference
- Offices making easy to implement changes, buying more recycled content paper, shutting off lights

What does the Green Office Challenge seek to achieve?

Long term:

- Expanded participation in the program
- Refined scoring system and checklist items
- **Measurable waste and energy use reductions, as well as an increase in active transportation on campus and participation in sustainability related events.**

Energy
Management



Waste Reduction
& Recycling

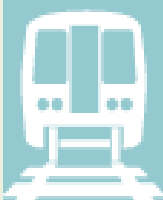
Office
Supplies



Food
& Beverage



Networking
& Engagement



Transportation



Energy Management

- 2 pts EM1. All workstations have power strips that are easily accessible and are switched off each night. Smart Strips, which automatically turn off when not in use, will make this task easier.
[Check out more information about Smart Strips.](#)
- 2 pts EM2. This office has established an Energy Star replacement plan, ensuring that any old appliances or electronics are replaced with Energy Star certified models.
[More information on Energy Star certified electronics](#)
- 3 pts EM3. Before holidays and breaks this office makes sure to 'Power Down' and an e-mail is sent out with an Energy Saving checklist.
[Example of an Energy Saving Checklist \(Not yet available\)](#)
- 3 pts EM4. Computers are turned off at night. (May not apply if computers are automatically backed up at night.) Using a power strip will make this task easier.
[Click here for more information.](#)
- 3 pts EM5. Your office has created a CUB Energy Saver team and is bringing energy savings home! This is a free program run through the Citizens Utility Board that rewards energy savers.
[Check out the CUB Energy Saver Website to learn more.](#)
- 3 pts EM 6. Electronics like shredders, copiers/printers, microwaves, or TVs are turned off at night. If possible, these appliances are unplugged.
[Click here for more information.](#)
- 4 pts EM 7. This office has conducted an appliance audit and has eliminated any unnecessary appliances (printers, personal refrigerators, etc).
[Appliance Audit Guide \(Not yet available\)](#)
- 4 pts EM 8. Computers are set to hibernate after 15 minutes of inactivity and screen savers are never used, since they prevent the computer from going to sleep.
[ACCC resource guide for Green Computing.](#) (Thanks, ACCC!)
- 4 pts EM 9. All lights are turned off when not in use. This includes common areas like conference rooms and break rooms. Light switches have 'Please turn it OFF' stickers attached.
[More information from the US Department of Energy.](#)

0 / 28 points earned for Energy Management

0 %

Take me to the
comments section

How to use this form:

The Green Office Challenge is organized as a checklist. Each Focus Area has a series of initiatives that earn points. Use this form to calculate how many points your office earns right now.

Form Breakdown:

Point Value

Initiative abbreviation (this one is Energy Management 1)
There are helpful if you have questions about specific initiatives

Initiative Description

Initiative Response. Pick the best option that describes your office right now

2 pts EM1. All workstations have power strips that are easily accessible and are switched off each night. Smart Strips, which automatically turn off when not in use, will make this task easier.

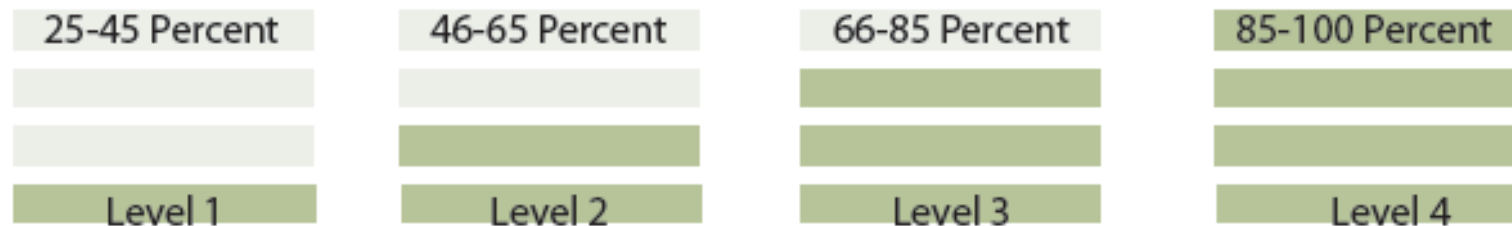
[Check out more information about Smart Strips.](#)

Yes No Sometimes

Jump off point. Click here to learn more.

Levels of Achievement

As your office accumulates points, it can potentially place within 1 of 4 levels of green achievement:



4 pts NE 5. This office has a 'GreenTeam' with representatives from various parts of the department. The 'Green Team' is led by the EcoRep(s) and helps to organize sustainability initiatives within the office, and stays updated about the department's progress through the Green Office Challenge.

☒ Yes☐ No

[Learn about what Green Teams have done in the past.](#)

11 / 11 points earned for Networking & Engagement

[Take me to the comments section](#)

100 %

69.5 / 93 total points earned

Your office has earned 74.7 percent!

Check out your corresponding 'Green Level' below:

25-45 Percent

46-65 Percent

66-85 Percent

85-100 Percent

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4

Getting the word out



Dear EcoReps, please forward this e-mail to office staffers so they can be up to date with the Green Office Challenge as well.

Hello Green Office Challenge participants!

We are proud to welcome two new participants to the program:

1. The Department of Urban Planning and Policy
2. The Dean's Office, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs

These additions bring our total number of full and part time participants up to 600 UIC employees!

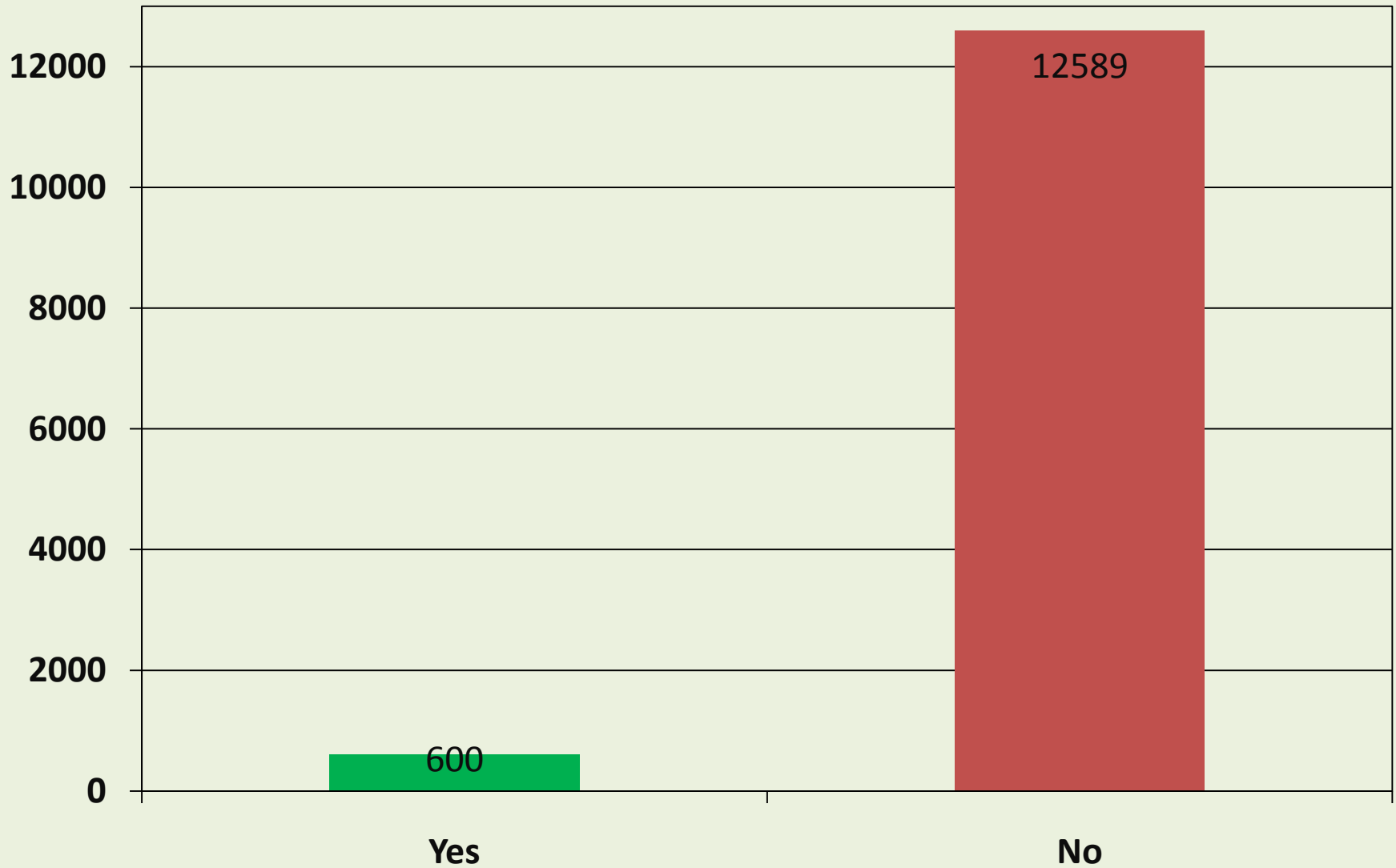
Current Participants:

- The Institute for Environmental Science and Policy
- The Center for Research on Women and Gender
- Nursing- Professional Development
- The Office of Sustainability
- The Office of the Chancellor
- Hospital Marketing
- The Department of Urban Planning and Policy
- Dean's Office- College of Urban Planning and Public Administration
- Campus Housing

Initial Scores ranging from 34% to 72%

600 full and part time employees at
UIC work in a Green Office
Challenge Office.

UIC Employees participating in the Green Office Challenge, Fall 2011



The Role of Students:

- Getting the word out, especially within their departments
- ‘Auditing’ the checklists
- Sustainability ‘think-tanks’
- Refining the checklist items, evidence-based initiatives. (research leg work)
- Leading by Example (it goes both ways)

For more information, check out the Office of
Sustainability's website

<http://www.uic.edu/sustainability/greenoffice/>

or e-mail me at

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